

**OWNER & HOMPEPORT:**

AHL American Heavy Lift Shipping  
Co., USA

**YARD INFORMATION:**

Bethlehem Steel Shipbuilders  
Sparrows Point (USA)

**SCRAPPING INFORMATION:**



© G. Monteny

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

Name: Captain H.A. Downing IMO No: 5137767  
 Ex: King Built: 10/1957  
 Type: Tanker Status: In Service  
 SubType: Flag: United States  
 DWT: 40,016 Draft: 10.97 Builder: Bethlehem Steel  
 Shipbuilders  
 GT: 24,458 LOA: 207.26 Owner: American Heavy Lift  
 NT: Beam: 27.56 Speed/Cons: 15.50/75.00  
 Class: AB Depth: 16.38 Engine Type:  
 Cubic: 44,174

**OWNER & FLAG HISTORY:**

CAPTAIN H. A. DOWNING 12-05-2000 LRF  
 Flag Date of record Source  
 U.S.A. 12-05-2000 LRF  
 Registered owner Date of record Source  
 AMERICAN HEAVY 31-12-1979 LRF  
 Ship manager Date of record Source  
 AMERICAN HEAVY 31-12-1979 LRF

**SALES, TRANSFERS & RENAMINGS:**

GULFKING	1957-85	
KING	1985-96	AHL American Heavy Lift Shipping Co., USA
CAPTAIN H.A. DOWNING	1996-	AHL American Heavy Lift Shipping Co., USA

**GENERAL VESSEL INFORMATION:**

Avondale Industries, Inc., and AHL Shipping Company christened the first commercial, self-propelled, double-hull tanker built in the United States to conform with the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 and the Jones Act. The 680-foot-long product carrier was christened CAPTAIN H. A. DOWNING. The new ship is named for Captain Henry A. Downing, who established American Heavy Lift Shipping Company in 1985. The ship is the first of four AHL tankers being built as double-hulled ships with the addition of a new 510-foot-long doubled-hulled forebody constructed by Avondale. The new forebody is joined to the renovated and modified existing stern section -- where the engines, crew quarters, and bridge are located -- to complete the conversion into a modern, environmentally sound, double-hulled product carrier. Prior to joining together the forebody and stern section of the new ship, Avondale fabricated and installed three additional deck levels which were added to the stern's superstructure. This same procedure will be repeated on the three subsequent AHL vessels. The double-hulled forebody for the third ship, which will be named NEW RIVER, is also presently under construction at Avondale. A keel-laying ceremony was held October 2, 1996, for the fourth ship, which will be named THE MONSEIGNEUR. The AHL double-hulled product carriers will transport refined products and chemicals. The ships have a beam of 90 feet and a draft of 36 feet. They will displace 50,035 long tons and have a deadweight of 39,400 long tons. Powered by 15,000 horsepower, the new ships are capable of speeds of 15.5 knots at fully loaded cargo oil capacity of 275,800 barrels. The CAPTAIN H. A. DOWNING's maiden voyage is scheduled for early October, when it will transport gasoline additives (MTBE) from the Texas Gulf Coast to the U. S. West Coast. Once delivered, the ship will be under the command of the Captain William Ehringer. AHL Shipping Company, headquartered in New Orleans, owns and operates a fleet of U. S.-flag product/chemical carriers.  
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